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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. (0320-0012) HOOV 112

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven et al.

Serial No.: 10/032,378

Filed: October 26, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Rollins

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE
WITH INTEGRAL EKG SENSOR

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to the document listed on the attached form, which the document may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of the document is enclose herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus or method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed document is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of the document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document

is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of the document discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final action or an action that closes prosecution. The cited information was first called to Applicant's attention in an Office Action dated June 4, 2004 in related Application Number 10/327,831 filed on December 23, 2002. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing of this information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), a fee under §1.17(p) is not

required for the filling of this information disclosure. However, if it is determined that an additional fee is required, then authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account 50-1039 any additional fee required.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 10, 2004

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